

You are cordially invited to  
**The Next Town Assembly**  
of the Village of Arden.

**Monday, June 24, 2002**  
**at 7:30 p.m. in Gild Hall**  
2126 The Highway, Arden, Delaware

**OUR AGENDA WILL INCLUDE:**

1. Presentation by County Councilman Bob Weiner on his commendation of Peg Aumack.
2. Vote to renew the county's representation of Arden for Federal Housing Block Grants. This motion has the Advisory Committee's recommendation.
3. Vote to elect Bill Press to the office of Chairperson Emeritus. Chairpersons emeritus serve on the Advisory Committee, can represent the village at public occasions, and serve as a consultants to the village.
4. Annual Report of the Arden Assessors.
5. Trustees Report.
6. Committee Reports in reverse alphabetical order.

All are welcome at this public town meeting.

Please note: Those attending town meetings are eligible to vote if they have resided in Arden six consecutive months prior to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.

**Town Assembly for the Village of Arden**  
**Monday, March 25, 2002**  
**Gild Hall - Arden, Delaware**

Marguerite Archer  
 Beverly Barnett  
 Ruth Bean  
 Samuel Bean  
 Brooke Bovard  
 Alan Burslem  
 Maria Burslem  
 Marianne Cinaglia  
 Joann Colameco  
 Thomas Colgan  
 Alton Dahl  
 John Demsey  
 Carl Falco  
 Joan Fitzgerald  
 Rachel Grier-Reynolds  
 Rick Grier-Reynolds  
 Charlie Hahn  
 Aaron Hamburger

Sally Hamburger  
 Stephen Harcourt  
 Barbara Henry  
 Don Holcomb  
 Milton Isaacs  
 Rodney Jester  
 Deborah Kenney  
 A. Barnes King  
 Allan Kleban  
 June Kleban  
 Lynda Kolski  
 Wayne Knotts  
 Eliot Levin  
 Mary Marconi  
 Virginia Mann  
 Ron Ozer  
 Ruth Panella  
 Jeffrey Politis

Pete Renzetti  
 Elizabeth Resko  
 Josiane Rey  
 Hugh Roberts  
 Marjorie Roberts  
 Sue Rothrock  
 Danny Schweers  
 Sadie Somerville  
 Steve Tanzer  
 Steven Threefoot  
 Mark Taylor  
 Elizabeth Varley  
 Cecilia Vore  
 Larry Walker  
 Jan Westerhouse  
 Tom Wheeler  
 Mamie Wollery

**1. Meeting called to order:** Bill Press, Town Chair called the meeting to order and commented on the large turn out for this evenings meeting. The Brandywine School District sent a letter in reference to the upcoming referendum to increase funding in the school district. At the Advisory Committee meeting, everyone thought it would be a fine idea for these people to give a presentation. Bill introduced:

Wendy Lapham, Public Information Officer, Brandywine School District  
 Frank Kolling, Vice President, Claymont Community Coalition.

Wendy Lapham gave her report, which was a summary of her handout which is included in these minutes.

Frank Kolling distributed Wendy's handout on *Why the Brandywine School District is holding Operating Referendum* along with *Facts for Senior Citizens about Applying for the Senior School Property Tax Credit*.

**2. Correspondence:** Prior to the meeting, Bill Press was given a 'Wanted Poster' prepared by the Delaware State Police. Wanted is William Kevin Hannig. The flyer will be posted on the bulletin board in the Gild Hall

**3. Minutes from the last meeting:** Approved

**4. Comments from the Chair:** Bill Press commented it is an important night for us, with what we have already heard and the upcoming elections.

Alton Dahl read the following statement after our attorney was informed of the events of the notification of tonight's meeting:

Tonight's meeting is being held pursuant to the notice in the March issue of the Arden Page giving date, time and location as well as the itemized agenda for the meeting. The Page was hand delivered to all residents of Arden on the weekend of March second. This notice is considered by the lawyers for the Trustees of Arden to make us in substantial compliance with the applicable provision of the Articles of Incorporation and allows us to proceed with our meeting.

Hugh Roberts asked when the Land Rent bill was sent out because he did not receive anything. Marianne apologized and would follow up.

**Report Approved.**

**5. Introduction of new residents:** none

**6. Trustees' Report:**

To: Village of Arden

From: Marianne Cinaglia

Re: Trustees' Report

Date: March 25, 2002

1. **Arden Trustee:** Connee McKinney has been confirmed as an Arden Trustee by Village referendum. The Trustees would like to thank the Registration Committee for their conscientious effort in getting residents to participate in the referendum.
2. **Land Rent:** Land Rents are due March 25, 2002. We are in receipt of land rent from most Leaseholders
3. **County Tax Rebates:** There are two rebate programs for New Castle County residents: The School Tax rebate for which all property owners over 65 are eligible. The Property Tax rebate for seniors and persons with disabilities. This rebate is dependent on level of income. To get information and forms call Jim Fedena in County Assessments at 395-5520.
4. **Buckingham Greene:** The arguments for inclusion of defendants in the Buckingham Greene suit have been concluded and have been on the Chancery Court judge's desk since October. Our attorney has asked if the judge needed more information or clarification. We are waiting for movement by the Court.

**Report Approved**

Trustees' report continued:

**Village of Arden**

Receipts and Bank Balances March 25, 2001 to February 28, 2002

<b>Balance in Bank March 25, 2001</b>		<b>14,814.00</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Grants	23,825.00	
Interest & Dividends	176.31	
Land Rent:		
Past Fiscal Year(s)	4,365.16	
Present Fiscal Year	165,248.05	
Future Fiscal Year(s)	1,299.01	
Meadow Lane Access Rent	310.84	
Memorial Garden Donations	3,200.00	
Miscellaneous	3,517.04	
Rights of Way:		
Cable TV		
Roads	5,436.95	
United Water Antenna Agreement	4,368.00	
	<b>SUBTOTAL Receipts</b>	<b>211,746.36</b>
Redeemed Investments	+	230,000.00
New Investments	-	100,000.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>341,746.36</b>
Receipts & Starting Bank Balance		356,560.36
Expenditures Against Budget		348,980.90
Balance in Bank as of February 28, 2002		<b>7,579.46</b>

**NOTE: Investment Position**

Arden Building and Loan	112,747.45
Vanguard Money Market	94,529.93
Other:	0.00
<b>TOTAL Investment Position</b>	<b>207,277.38</b>

Signatures:

Trustee:

Admin. Assist.:

*Carol S. - Hamburg*

*Thabo M. M. M. M.*



# Village of Arden - Expenditures Against Budget March 25, 2001 to February 28, 2002

Budget Item	Budgeted Amount	Expenditures F.Y. to Date	Expenditures Since Last Report
<b>Committees:</b>			
Archives	3,980.00	2,928.73	364.00
Buzz Ware Village Center	1,000.00	984.57	514.06
Buzz Ware VC: Renovations	12,500.00	0.00	0.00
Centennial Celebration	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
Civic Commons & Forests	19,000.00	16,364.98	742.06
Civic Roads	16,000.00	14,260.00	5,340.00
Civic Special Clean-up	2,000.00	956.27	0.00
Civic Trash Collection	39,000.00	34,021.20	6,176.02
Community Planning	1,500.00	603.40	528.40
Legislative Reference	50.00	35.00	35.00
Playground	1,750.00	360.00	0.00
Playground Equipment	2,300.00	2,208.00	0.00
Registration	3,500.00	2,613.43	783.83
Safety: General	1,000.00	877.55	45.66
Safety: Town Watch Coordinator	2,268.00	1,134.00	0.00
<b>Saleries:</b>			
Assembly Secretary	5,750.00	4,825.37	877.34
Bookkeeping Services	2,320.00	1,946.89	353.98
<b>Other Live Items:</b>			
Board of Assessors	50.00	0.00	0.00
Donations: ACRA	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
Donations: Arden Library	450.00	450.00	0.00
Donations: Arden Page	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.00
Donations: Fire Companies	950.00	950.00	0.00
Gild Hall Rental	800.00	800.00	0.00
Telephone	275.00	174.45	31.05
Contingencies	2,000.00	253.50	0.00
<b>Items Not Subject to Referenda</b>			
Memorial Garden Fund	N/A	3,720.47	1,113.50
BWVC: Grants		1,361.36	1,361.36
Civic: Grants	(a) 2,895.00	(d) 12,185.00	12,125.00
Com. Plan.: Grants	(b) 1,058.56		0.00
NCC Pass-thru Grant	(c) 7,272.69		0.00
Taxes: New Castle Co. Property	60,000.00	56,983.47	161.40
Taxes: School	164,000.00	153,628.01	1,306.22
Administrative: Auditing	4,100.00	4,470.00	0.00
Administrative: Insurance	6,500.00	5,829.00	0.00
Administrative: Legal	10,000.00	4,896.30	0.00
Administrative: Office Rent	2,100.00	1,925.00	350.00
Administrative: Operations/Fees	6,500.00	5,270.83	965.31
Administrative: Payroll Taxes	1,600.00	3,026.20	620.52
Administrative: Salary Ad. Asst.	9,064.00	8,327.00	1,514.00
Less Accrued Taxes		(1,647.51)	(300.02)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>396,804.25</b>	<b>348,980.90</b>	<b>35,008.69</b>

Notes:

(a) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01):  
1998 Bond Bill One-Time-Aid to Local Governments \$2,895.00

(b) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01):  
Traffic Calming 97-P-Prog-117 \$993.29  
Urban Forestry III \$86.27

(c) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01):  
NCC Pass-Thru Grant I \$2,272.69  
NCC Pass-Thru Grant II \$5,000.00

(d) Expenditures against Revenue from:  
Del DOT 02-P-Prog-32 \$12,125.00  
Fund: Trails Renewal \$1,300.00

Notes:

(a) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01):  
1998 Bond Bill One-Time-Aid to Local Governments \$2,895.00

(b) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01):  
Traffic Calming 97-P-Program-117 \$993.29  
Urban Forestry III \$86.27

(c) Deferred Revenue (Audit '00-01):  
NCC Pass-Thru Grant I \$2,272.89  
NCC Pass-Thru Grant II \$5,000.00

(d) Expenditures against Revenue from:  
Del DOT 02-P-Program-32 \$12,125.00  
Fund: Trails Renewal \$1,300.00

Report Approved

7. Advisory: no report
8. Archives:

TOWN ASSEMBLY of ARDEN 3/25/02

ARDEN ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

The exciting news at the Arden Archives this month is that the new museum software is up and running, thanks to Danny Schweers. This means we are starting on the enormous and necessary task of cataloging every item in the collection. Every photograph, every file, every piece of art. This is a necessary step to making our archives accessible. It's an easy program, even I can do it.

Our committee is enjoying working with the extended committee which includes 3 representatives from Ardentown and 2 from Ardencroft - the representatives bring us new insights and fresh energy. Earlier today we toured our future home at the Red House and were excited by the vision of what we will become.

Sally Hamburger

Report Approved

Election of Town Officers & Committee Members

Cecilia Vore advised the election poll opened earlier this evening and confirmed that everyone present had received a ballot. Nominations for the various committees are still open and can be taken from the floor.

There were no other nominations received.

**Motion:** Alton Dahl moved to close the acceptance of nominations.

**Seconded.**

**Approved.**

Time was given for voting and during that time Cecilia introduced the candidates by committee.

Ballots were collected.

The counting of the votes will be done tomorrow morning (Tuesday, March 26). The results will be posted on the bulletin boards on The Green and Gild Hall.

9. **Arden Craft Shop:** Tom Wheeler reported the committee is still meeting with the architect. He is also happy the report the apartment is now ready to be rented.

**Report Approved**

10. **Assessors:** Alton Dahl advised their meetings have been posted in The Page. In addition, what we heard tonight will increase our costs.

**Report Approved**

11. **Audit:** no report

12. **Budget:** Mary Marconi reported that every March the Budget Committee presents a forecast for three years and they are presenting the 2005-2006 forecast tonight.

**"Arden Town Assembly**

**Notes: Three-Year Forecast**

**FY 2003-2004, FY 2004-2005, & FY 2005-2006**

**March 25, 2002**

**1) Property Taxes:**

- (a) **County Taxes:** Represents a 1% yearly increase.  
(b) **School Taxes:** Represents a 28% increase for capital expenses over a 4-year period which was approved in the Brandywine School District's referendum on May 31, 2001. Also includes potential increase (if the April 2002 referendum passes) in the District's operating budget

**2) Trustees Administration** Increase due to increase in Legal & Audit lines.

**3) Archives Committee:** Reason for decrease: end of rent (\$2,200) paid to Buzz Ware Village Center when Archives moves to the Craft Shop & support for Archives is taken over by Arden Museum Inc.

**4) Buzz Ware Village Center Committee:** Other-requested because BWVC will be losing rental income (\$2,200) from Archives. BWVC is requesting that this amount be included in their general operating budget in subsequent years.

**5) Community Planning Committee-Avery Task Force** - The task force is requesting \$2,000 for expenses to explore Arden's options regarding the 5-acre property that borders Sherwood Forest & is slated for development by owner Marcia Avery.

**6) Safety Committee-Harvey Rd. Speed Enforcement** Harvey Rd. Speed Enforcement Patrols: cooperative project with Ardentown & Ardencroft to hire off-duty police officers to enforce **Drive 25"** on Harvey Rd.

Budget continued:

ARDEN TOWN ASSEMBLY  
March 25, 2002  
THREE YEAR FORECAST  
FY 2002-2003, FY 2003-2004 & FY 2004-2005

		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
NON-BUDGET EXPENSES:	NOTES	ACTUAL	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST
Property Taxes:							
County	1a	96,700	98,782	57,390	88,000	88,000	88,000
School	1b	146,000	152,246	165,000	181,500	187,000	203,000
Sub-Total: Property Taxes		\$ 302,700	\$ 250,028	\$ 342,390	\$ 269,500	\$ 275,000	\$ 302,000
Township Administration:							
Audit	3	4,100	4,100	4,290	5,000	5,000	5,000
Insurance		5,014	6,300	6,300	6,300	6,300	7,000
Legal		17,260	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Maintenance/Operations & Fees		9,476	6,800	6,800	6,300	6,300	7,800
Office Rent		2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,300	2,300
Payroll Taxes		1,375	1,800	1,800	1,850	1,750	1,750
Salaries/Administration		9,064	9,084	9,180	9,400	9,600	9,800
Sub-Total: Township Administration	2	\$ 48,749	\$ 39,884	\$ 48,130	\$ 49,100	\$ 49,850	\$ 47,850
Other Non-Budget Expenses:							
Acquisition Committee/Craft Shop		25,000	-	-	-	-	-
Centennial Celebration		-	-	-	-	-	-
MCC Pass-Through Grant		-	-	-	-	-	-
State Grant for Roads to Ohio Committee		20,038	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Delaware Municipal Street Aid - Roads		18,734	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Sub-Total: Other Non-Budget Expenses		\$ 61,762	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 39,999	\$ 39,999	\$ 39,999
TOTAL NON-BUDGET EXPENSES		\$ 313,212	\$ 279,912	\$ 320,480	\$ 328,599	\$ 324,149	\$ 321,899
BUDGET EXPENSES:		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	APPROPRIATED	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST
Acquisition Committee:		2,000	-	-	-	-	-
Craft Shop		-	-	-	-	-	-
Craft Shop: Matching Funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Advisory		N/A	N/A	375	200	200	200
Archeology	3	3,041	3,800	4,000	2,800	1,600	1,800
Board of Assessors		90	90	90	90	90	90
Brant Veen Village Center		1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Recreation Projects		6,000	12,800	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Other	4	-	-	-	1,100	2,200	2,200
Ohio Committee:							
Roads		14,215	18,000	18,000	17,000	17,000	18,000
Conservation & Forests		15,879	19,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	21,000
Trash Collection		37,200	38,000	38,000	40,000	41,800	43,000
Special Clean-up		80	2,000	1,500	1,600	1,500	2,000
Sub-Total Ohio Committee		67,384	78,000	78,000	79,600	80,300	84,000
Community Planning		262	1,200	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
County Traffic Force	5	N/A	N/A	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Grants - State of Delaware		2,877	-	-	-	-	-
Legislative Reference		-	80	80	80	80	75
Parkground		1,700	1,750	1,800	1,850	1,800	1,800
Equipment		3,300	2,300	-	-	-	-
Registration Committee		2,880	3,200	1,200	1,300	1,300	1,200
Safety - General		248	1,000	1,000	900	800	800
Town Watch Coordinator Fee		2,288	2,288	2,288	2,288	2,288	2,400
Harvey Rd. Enforcement	8	N/A	N/A	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Town Expenses							
Salaries:							
Secretary		5,091	5,790	5,802	6,115	6,280	6,400
Bookkeeping - Town		2,084	2,320	2,402	2,478	2,340	2,819
Town Telephone		189	279	-	-	-	-
Misc. Operations/Fees		N/A	N/A	3,325	3,400	3,500	3,800
Gift Hall Rental		800	800	800	800	800	1,000
Donations:							
ACRA		700	1,000	1,300	1,350	1,400	1,400
Arden Page		1,180	1,250	1,300	1,350	1,450	1,450
Arden Library		450	480	500	550	500	500
Pipe Companies		850	850	850	850	875	1,000
Sub-Total Town Expenses		11,334	12,790	16,559	17,288	17,918	17,918
Centennial Celebration		11,131	1,000	-	-	-	-
Pinpoint Film Cabinet: Town Secretary		885	-	-	-	-	-
Contingencies		682	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
TOTAL BUDGET EXPENSES		\$ 117,371	\$ 121,893	\$ 117,802	\$ 116,385	\$ 121,118	\$ 125,884
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 430,484	\$ 400,805	\$ 438,282	\$ 444,994	\$ 445,267	\$ 448,844
		2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006



## 13. Buzz Ware:

**BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER  
2119 THE HIGHWAY  
ARDEN, DE 19810**

Arden Town Meeting  
March 25, 2002

**BWVC COMMITTEE REPORT**

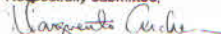
1. **Day of Relaxation:** Our February Day of Relaxation turned into a pleasant afternoon of sitting in the Tea Room conversing with friends and neighbors, nibbling on an assortment of fruits and sweets and piecing together puzzles. Our therapists from Massage & Body Works and from Sandy Hollow were kept busy the entire afternoon providing chair and table massages, foot reflexology and energy work while others had sessions of insightful readings performed. Sandy Hollow graciously provided door prizes of T-shirts and body oil samples, along with a drawing for two gifts certificates good for free massage sessions. The general consensus was that this will definitely be another annual event for the BWVC.
2. **The Coffee Houses** continues to be a popular venue at the BWVC. The past couple months have been packed with attentive audiences come to listen to the assortment of performers on our Open Mike stage. Additional treats this past month were the special performance by Judith Kay and the exhibition of artwork by Debbie Hegedus and Mary Morrison; the Art Exhibit continued into the weekend. A reception by the artists was held Saturday afternoon and a number of pieces were sold, bringing a commission to the Buzz Ware of \$308.75.
3. **Renovation plans continue** – repairs to the masonry and painting of the building and trim will most likely begin mid April. The windows will be addressed separately at a later date and as finances permit. Mary Marconi is currently assisting us with a small grant proposal and we will be looking into other available grants to assist us with the window renovations.
4. **The YMCA continues to be a valued tenant.** The current Child Development Director, Ivy Sheehan, met with the BWVC committee to discuss proposed plans for adding a preschool program at their BWVC site. We are currently in the process of ironing out some of the terms of the contract. One of the benefits to the community will be that the children of the Ardens will be eligible for enrollment, regardless of whether they are members of the YMCA.
5. **Spring Cleaning:** April 20<sup>th</sup> was originally scheduled for our Spring Cleaning event. We have however, postponed that until May. Look for the dates in the May Page or check your e-mails. I'll be sending out further information when we firm up the May date.

Arden Town Meeting  
March 25, 2002  
BWVC report cont.  
Page two

6. Upcoming events:

- a. Coffee Houses – 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month. These will run through June with a hiatus from July through September. The next one is April 12<sup>th</sup>. The Coffee Houses continue to evolve with their own unique, creative, magical energies. So, come on over and add yours to it!!
- b. Art exhibits:
  - i. April 13 & 14 – “2002 Emerging Artists Series: Kayla Refert”. Ms. Refert is a senior at the Rhode Island School of Design & studied in Italy for one year. Please see the table for flyers.
  - ii. May 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>: “2002 Emerging Artists Series” continues.
  - iii. June 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>: “2002 Emerging Artists Series” continues.
  - iv. One of the June exhibits will be of works created during the Saturday Art classes held over the past year. So keep an eye out for the dates and come check out what the kids of the Ardens and others have been doing in Jessie Roy’s class this year.
- c. Committee meetings – as always, are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. All are welcome to come sit in on any of our meetings.

Respectfully submitted,



Marguerite Archer  
BWVC Committee Chair

## Report Approved

### 14. Civic:

The Civic Committee has had complaints about abuse of our woodlands. There have been complaints of smoldering fires, broken bottles and four inch diameter trees being chopped down with a hatchet at Indian Circle. There have been complaints of motorbikes and trash such as paintball residue in Sherwood Forest. The Civic Committee will be placing signs at the path entrances to the woods stating the ordinances that pertain to the woodlands. These are: woodlands closed dusk til dawn, no littering, motor vehicles prohibited, and fires prohibited. There will be a sign at Indian Circle stating that campfires are by permit only. These signs are there to inform and also to enable police to enforce our ordinances. There will also be a sign installed at the basketball court stating that parking is in front of the village center. If someone is in violation of these ordinances you can call the New Castle Police at their non-emergency number which is 573-2800. This also pertains to noise at the basketball court that is in violation of the New Castle County Code.

*civic continued:*

If there is no response to your call, please let the safety committee know so they can contact the police about the problem. We had a fire in the Sherwood Forest yesterday. A neighbor noticed the smoke and call the fire company. Talleyville Fire Company responded with their water truck and the fire was put out. We do not know what started the fire, however it was probably careless smoking. Approximately 1000 square feet of surface area was burned.

Our Avery neighbor has put up no trespassing signs in the woods. We will be marking the Arden border in that area perhaps with more bird houses that delineate the boundary line.

The survey of the flora and fauna in the Sherwood forest has begun. So far 85 species of plants have been identified including one rare specimen.

The special trash pick-up will be April 20<sup>th</sup>. A flyer will be sent out with the information.

Respectfully submitted.....Sue Rothrock, civic committee, chair

Approved

### 15. Community Planning:

Community Planning Report  
March 25, 2002

#### Memorial Garden

Chris Benarcik has been contracted to help with planning landscaping and maintance. A new plaque has been installed at the Grubb family plot listing family members who are buried there. The plaque was installed by the Grubb family. Saturday, April 27, from 9a.m. to noon is the Spring clean-up for the Memorial Garden. Raindate is Sunday, April 28, from 10-1. If you can stop by and help pull some weeds or tidy up a bit even for a short period of time, it would be greatly appreciated.

Remembrance Day will be held May 26 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Gild Hall. This year we are remembering the Holcomb family and Mannie and Rae Gerstine. This is a wonderful opportunity for people who have moved to the Ardens in recent years to learn about some of the people who spent many years in Arden and played various roles in the community. Everyone is welcome to attend and reminisce with old and new residents and friends about the Holcombs and Gerstines. There are always plenty of interesting and funny stories that bring these people to life even for those who did not have the opportunity to personally know them. It's a great way to get a little insight into some of the history and people of Arden.

#### Harvey Road Traffic Calming

After a number of meetings with DelDot, the traffic calming committee asked DelDot To come up with a creative solution to slowing traffic on Harvey Road. DelDot presented a plan that consisted of a series of five arches across Harvey Road at various places. These arches would be somewhat like the arch on Lincoln Street for Little Italy. The placement of the arches was determined by a number of factors, including access to a pedestrian crosswalk, and the contour of the road, such as hills and curves. The committee had a mixed reaction to the plan with some feeling the arches created a sense of place and others feeling that they were out of place. However, everyone agreed that the arches would do nothing to slow traffic, which is our main goal. We decided that as a trial run, we would present the plan to the three villages and get a sense of the community.

*Community planning continued:*

It was presented at the Ardentown town meeting in February, which was the first of the village meetings to occur, and at the meeting was met with a mixed response that pretty much mirrored the HRTCC's response. When the committee reported to the DelDot that the plan was not wholeheartedly endorsed and praised, DelDot withdrew the plan from consideration, which is why it is not being presented here tonight. In response to DelDot's withdrawal of the plan, the HRTCC has put together suggestions for an alternative plan and has sent them to DelDot for their consideration. The committee's suggestions include:

1. Between Veale and Sconset where the shoulder is wide, make it appear green, by using a material such as geo-grid that can be planted with grass, but still be driven on.
2. Add a traffic light at the Veale Road intersection to create a green wave.
3. Add a turn lane into the Montessori school that is blocked in some way at the top to allow turns into the school, but not allow a through to the I-95 ramp.
4. Create bulbouts at certain points in Arden, particularly where there are heavily used pedestrian crosswalks.
5. Create a gateway at the entrances to Arden, including an island at the entrance by Sconset Road.

At this point we are back to the discussion stage with DelDot, so there is no real timeline or deadline in place, and no plan under consideration.

**Avery Task Force**

A letter was sent to the Army Corps of Engineers in early March asking that additional information about specific wet areas on the property be considered and that those areas be re-evaluated in their jurisdictional determination. In order to evaluate that information and determine whether or not it is valid, the Corps forwarded the letter to Marsha Avery and asked her to meet them on the property to look at the areas in question. Because it is private property, the Corps needs her permission to go on it. Mrs. Avery responded by posting her property with no trespassing signs. To date, she has not yet responded to the Corps request. If she does not allow the Corps to re-evaluate additional information, it may jeopardize the Corp's original jurisdictional determination, which said impact from development on the area would be minimal. This would further impede her ability to develop the property as fully as planned. She still has nine months left before her grandfathered plan expires.

**Landmark Status**

The nomination of the Ardens Historic District was returned by the federal government with challenges based on these issues:

1. Period of significance cannot extend to the present.
2. What makes a resource contribute must be specified.
3. Provide additional information about the design and construction of the architecture, including a date of construction for all buildings.

Robin Bodo of the State Historic Preservation Office is working on the bureaucratic issues. The probable solution is to move the leasehold inventory from the body of the nomination to an appendix. The committee feels that collectively buildings on leaseholds reflect the community, even if individually they do not meet the federal definition of an historic building.

Senators Biden and Carper sent a joint letter of support on March 6, but no response yet. Rep. Castle's staff is up-to-date and ready to help when needed.



**17. Registration:**

During this referendum, several questions arose concerning the rules introduced in 1992. The registration Committee is currently reviewing the requirements for conducting a referendum and the records kept of eligible voters. If needed, the committee will present a rule change at the next Town Meeting to keep our referendum procedure in full compliance with the Deed of Trust and Act to Reincorporate, but the full committee will meet before any such changes.

**Report Approved****18. Playground:**

Since the last Town Meeting, one playground inspection has been held and the other inspection will be completed later this week. We have received a shipment of playground chips which will be spread when the weather is warmer and the labor is more willing. All the equipment is in safe condition.

Submitted by  
Larry Walker, Chairperson

**Report Approved****19. Safety Committee: no report**

Hugh Roberts asked for an update on the Harvey Road Police Action. It is on hold at this time.

**20. Old Business: none****21. Good and Welfare:**

Ruth Bean mentioned that a long time friend of Arden, Theo Andrews died last month. Even though he was not a resident, he worked closely with the Civic Committee. A card will be sent to his wife, Ann Andrews.

**23. Meeting Adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted

  
Joan Fitzgerald  
Town Secretary

## Brandywine School District



### 2002 Operating Referendum *An Investment in Excellence*

## Why the Brandywine School District is holding an Operating Referendum

- The Financial Review Task Force, a group of citizens with broad-based expertise in business operations, finances, and facilities, recommended that the District hold an Operating Referendum during the 2001-2002 school year.
- On January 17, 2002, the School Board authorized an Operating Referendum to be held Tuesday, April 23, 2002, from noon to 9:00 p.m.

## What the Operating Referendum asks for

- **Support for the Strategic Plan.** The Strategic Plan is a five-year action plan for the District. It was developed cooperatively with input from teachers, administrators, and over 300 members of our community. The Plan's highest priority is teaching and learning. The four areas requiring additional funding are: early recruitment of high-quality teachers, expansion of effective early education programs, increased student participation in academically challenging programs, and development of alternative education programs.
- **A One-time restoration of the reserve fund.** Since 1998, the reserve has decreased from \$9.5 million to \$1.3 million. Replenishment of the reserve fund in 2002-03 to \$3.0 million will ensure that our financial commitments can be met between July and October, 2002, when state funds become available. The District needs to replenish this reserve fund or face cuts in programs and services.
- **A 2% increase in the cost of basic operations over a 5-year period.** This is less than the expected rate of inflation.
- **A preventive maintenance fund.** The state pays for only 60% of minor building improvements. Preventive maintenance, such as roof repair, will slow the need for future costly repairs.

## What the Operating Referendum will cost taxpayers

- The Referendum will ask voters to approve a current expense tax rate adjustment from 32.6 cents to a maximum of 51.4 cents per \$100 of assessed property value over a 5-year period.
- Homes in the Brandywine Hundred area are assessed at much less than their market value.
- This tax increase is projected to carry the District for the next 5 years.
- In past referenda, the maximum rate was implemented in year one and remained at that level; in this referendum, taxes will be increased only as needed.
- The District Finance Committee, made up of community members, will recommend the minimum necessary tax rate each year.
- 91 cents of every dollar goes to students and schools.
- The District has made reductions of over \$1 million as part of its cost containment strategy.
- The District has made a commitment to reduce costs by an additional \$100,000 each year.
- District-level administrative staff has been reduced by 28% since 1994.
- Major cuts have been made in staff travel, overtime, supplies, and District vehicle usage.

(Over, please)

- To find out exact increases based on individual home assessments, residents may call the Referendum Hotline, 793-5053 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or may access the District website: [www.bsd.k12.de.us/referendum](http://www.bsd.k12.de.us/referendum)
- Citizens who are 65 or older may be eligible for the Senior School Property Tax Credit. Call the New Castle County Assessment Division for more information: 395-5520 or 395-5540.

## Find out More

Contact the Brandywine School District  
Referendum Hotline: 793-5053  
General Information: 793-5009  
Fax: 792-3853  
Email: [referendum@bsd.k12.de.us](mailto:referendum@bsd.k12.de.us)  
Website: [www.bsd.k12.de.us/referendum](http://www.bsd.k12.de.us/referendum)

To arrange for a speaker to make a presentation about the Operating Referendum, please contact: Tom Ramsay: 475-8520

If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact:

Steve Lehm, Co-Chair: (W) 764-7635; (H) 654-1908

Chuck Landry, Co-Chair: (H) 429-8664

## *Inspire and Challenge Every Child Every Day*

**Tax dollars should pay for education,  
not for the referendum campaign.  
Please help by making a contribution to the  
Friends of the Brandywine Referendum.**

If you are interested in underwriting some of the costs of the referendum campaign, please send this completed form to:

Friends of the Brandywine Referendum, c/o John Pinkner, 2404 Kingman Drive,  
Wilmington, DE 19810.

Please make checks payable to Friends of the Brandywine Referendum.  
Contributions are not tax deductible.

**Enclosed is my contribution to Friends of the Brandywine Referendum**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Friends of the Brandywine Referendum

For more information please contact Brandywine School District, 1000 Pennsylvania  
Avenue, Claymont, DE 19703; Phone: 302-793-5009; Fax: 792-3853;  
Email: [referendum@bsd.k12.de.us](mailto:referendum@bsd.k12.de.us)



## **Facts for Senior Citizens about Applying for the Senior School Property Tax Credit**

- You must be 65 or older as of July 1, 2002 to be eligible for the tax credit in Fiscal Year 2002-2003.
- The property for which you are applying must be your principal residence.
- There are no income restrictions for the Senior School Property Tax Credit.
- Eligible applicants receive a 50% reduction of school taxes, up to a maximum of \$500.
- If you are married and jointly own your home with your spouse, but only one spouse is 65 or older, the spouse who qualifies for the credit may apply without prorating the credit amount, even if one spouse is not yet 65.
- If you are married and jointly own your home with your spouse, and both spouses are 65 or older, you may apply for the credit, but only one credit may be awarded per household in any one year.
- If co-owners of a property are not married, a separate application form must be used for each individual claiming this credit. Applicants must meet all established criteria.
- The County Assessment Division strongly urges residents 65 and older to submit applications as soon as possible so they can be processed before tax bills are sent in July.
- You only need to submit an application once. However, if you sell your home and purchase a new home, you must reapply.

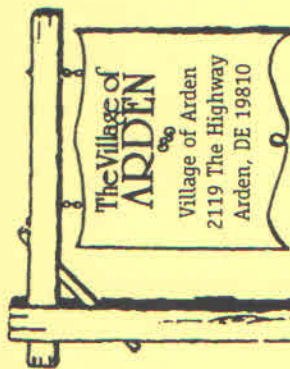
**For more information and to request an application, please contact:**  
**New Castle County Department of Land Use**  
**Assessment Division**  
**87 Reads Way**  
**New Castle, DE 19720-1648**

**Phone: (302)-395-5520 or (302) 395-5400**  
**Fax: (302) 395-5544**

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Avenue, Claymont, DE 19703; Phone: 302-793-5009; Fax: 792-3853;  
Email: [referendum@bsd.k12.de.us](mailto:referendum@bsd.k12.de.us)





\*you are welcome hither\*

**Dated Materials  
Enclosed**

Notice of Town  
Meeting

Minutes from  
Preceding Town  
Meeting